

**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

10/642,546

Examiner

R. Stephen Dildine

Applicant(s)

BLANK, JURGEN

Art Unit

2133

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☐ This communication is responsive to \_\_\_\_.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-18.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some\* c) ☒ None of the:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_.
  - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.  
**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

- ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),  
Paper No./Mail Date 15 Aug. 2003 et al 121604
- ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_.
- ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
- ☐ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
- ☐ Other \_\_\_\_.

R. Stephen Dildine  
Primary Examiner  
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### **EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT**

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

The application has been amended as follows: the following sentence has been inserted as the first line of the specification as required by 37 CFR 1.78 (2)(i): -- The present application claims the right of priority with respect to application No. 02 37 696.4 filed in Germany on August 15, 2002. --.

#### ***Priority***

Acknowledgment is made of applicant's claim for foreign priority based on an application filed in Germany on 15 August 2002. It is noted, however, that applicant has not filed a certified copy of the German application as required by 35 U.S.C. 119(b).

#### ***Information Disclosure Statement***

The information disclosure statement filed 15 August 2003 fails to comply with 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2), which requires a legible copy of each cited foreign patent document; each non-patent literature publication or that portion which caused it to be listed; and all other information or that portion which caused it to be listed. It has been placed in the application file, but the information referred to therein has only been considered to the extent indicated on the enclosed copy of the IDS.

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*Allowable Subject Matter*

Claims 1-18 are allowed.

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Graham (5,260,664) shows an apparatus for monitoring and testing a twisted pair, Wolf (5,600,660) teaches the use of a digital test sequence for a data transmission path, Dorner *et al.* (5,781,585) shows an arrangement for monitoring a two-wire bus line for serial transmission of digital data, Yeung *et al.* (6,051,997) states at column 2, lines 24-30 "the circuit further comprises a comparator circuit having a first input for receiving a reference voltage having a predetermined level, a second input coupled to the output of the mid-point determining circuit for comparing the mid-point signal with the reference voltage and an output providing an output signal indicative of whether the mid-point signal is above or below the reference voltage" and Heinrich (6,418,550) shows error checking for a two line electric data transmission system.


The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: None of the cited reference teach or fairly suggest means or method steps for comparing two mid-level values with to signal levels on the two lines of a differential signaling data transmission means as recited in applicant's independent claims 1 and 11.

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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to R. Stephen Dildine whose telephone number is (571) 272-3820. The examiner can normally be reached on M - F 5:30 am to 2:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Albert Decady can be reached on (571) 272-3819. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

  
R. Stephen Dildine  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 2133

R. Stephen Dildine